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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION DIRECTIVE

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER		DATE	February 07, 2018
MOTOR CARRIER MATTER		DOCKET NO.	2017-292-WS
UTILITIES MATTER	✓	ORDER NO.	2018-87

THIS DIRECTIVE SHALL SERVE AS THE COMMISSION'S ORDER ON THIS ISSUE.

SUBJECT:

<u>DOCKET NO. 2017-292-WS</u> - <u>Application of Carolina Water Service, Incorporated for Approval of an Increase in Its Rates for Water and Sewer Services</u> - Staff Presents for Commission Consideration the Request for a Public Night Hearing in Georgetown County Filed on Behalf of Claudine Drayton.

COMMISSION ACTION:

Mr. Chairman, on January 31, 2018, the Commission received a request from Ms. Claudine Drayton that the Commission hold a public night hearing to receive testimony from Carolina Water Service customers in the Georgetown, South Carolina, area.

On November 12, 2015, the Commission held such a hearing, in a previous Carolina Water Service case, in the Georgetown area. At that publicly noticed hearing, only three people attended and only one witness, Ms. Drayton, testified. All seven Commissioners and six members of the Commission Staff traveled from Columbia to Georgetown for that hearing, incurring considerable expense and consuming significant Commissioner and Staff time to record the testimony of one witness. Judging from our prior expense, we do not believe holding a hearing in Georgetown for this case would be an efficient use of the finite Commission resources for which we are responsible, and we, therefore, decline the request.

Our decision does not in any way mean that we do not value public testimony. In fact, the Commission will be holding public night hearings in York County, Greenville County, and Lexington County. Ms. Drayton is respectfully invited to attend any one of these public night hearings or the merits hearing to be held in this room on April 3rd. Further, we would respectfully invite Ms. Drayton and any other Carolina Water customers in the Georgetown area to submit letters or e-mails to express their views with regard to the Carolina Water Service Application.

PRESIDING:	<u>Randall</u>				SESSION: Regula	a <u>r</u>	TIME:	2:00 p.m.
	MOTION	YES	NO	OTHER				
BOCKMAN		✓						
ELAM	✓	✓						
FLEMING		✓						
HAMILTON		✓						
HOWARD		✓						
RANDALL		✓						
WHITFIELD				Absent	Family Sick Leav	е		

(SEAL) RECORDED BY: J. Schmieding

